



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/709,333 | 04/29/2004 | Yuan-Chia Lu | 12668-US-PA | 3332 |

31561 7590 08/07/2007
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2
TAIPEI, 100
TAIWAN

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

HERNANDEZ, JOSIAH J

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2626

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| NOTIFICATION DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|-------------------|---------------|

08/07/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

USA@JCIPGROUP.COM.TW

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/709,333

Applicant(s)

LU ET AL.

Examiner

Josiah Hernandez

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3, 8-15, 21-25, and 30-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated over Greenberg (US PGPub 2003/0083577).

As to claim 1, Greenberg discloses a method for adjusting images (paragraph [0036] lines 17-19), suitable for adjusting a video device with a voice-assisted system (abstract lines 1-4), said video device providing an on-screen display function (paragraph [0036] lines 15-18), said method comprising: receiving a voice command (abstract lines 4-6); recognizing said voice command (paragraph [0027] lines 1-3) and outputting a voice signal based on a result of recognizing said voice command (paragraph [0050] lines 1-5); and identifying said voice command as one of a specific command (paragraph [0036] lines 17-

19) and a fuzzy command based on said voice signal (a plurality of adjustment commands, paragraph [0036] lines 19-24).

As to claims 2 and 14, Greenberg discloses if said command is said specific command, further comprising performing one adjustment action corresponding to said voice command (paragraph [0036] lines 17-19).

As to claims 3 and 15, Greenberg discloses if said voice command is said fuzzy command, further comprising performing a plurality of adjustment actions corresponding to said voice command (paragraph [0036] lines 19-24).

As to claims 8, 21, and 30, Greenberg discloses if said voice command is said fuzzy command, further comprising finding said plurality of adjustment actions corresponding to said voice command from a command database (a list of words in a generated dictionary is used as the database for recognizing the commands, paragraph [0029] lines 27-32).

As to claims 9, 22, and 31, Greenberg discloses if said voice command is said fuzzy command, further comprising displaying performed adjustment actions corresponding to said voice command via said on-screen display function (paragraph [0040] lines 7-11).

As to claims 10, 23, and 32, Greenberg discloses after said step of displaying said performed adjustment actions corresponding to said voice command via said on-screen display function, further comprising an image modification process (image modification such as: image appearance, zoom in/out, and much more, paragraph [0036] lines 17-19).

As to claims 11, 24, and 33, Greenberg discloses wherein said image modification process includes selection by a voice input (paragraph [0036] lines 4-9).

As to claims 12, 25, and 34, Greenberg discloses wherein said image modification process includes selection by a button input (paragraph [0036] lines 4-9).

As to claim 13, Greenberg discloses a video device with a voice-assisted system (abstract lines 1-4), comprising: a voice recognition engine receiving a voice command (paragraph [0027] lines 1-3) and outputting a voice signal based on said voice command (paragraph [0050] lines 1-5); an on-screen display control interface, coupled to said voice recognition engine, receiving said voice signal; a display control unit coupled to said on-screen display control interface (paragraph [0036] lines 17-19); and a display unit coupled to said display control

Art Unit: 2626

unit, said on-screen display control interface based on said voice signal identifying said voice command as one of a specific command (paragraph [0036] lines 17-19) and a fuzzy command (a plurality of adjustment commands, paragraph [0036] lines 19-24).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-7, 16-20, and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenberg (US PGPub 2003/0083577) in view of Dominach et al. (2004/0172258).

As to claims 4 and 16, Greenberg does not specifically disclose using confidence measures. Dominach teaches performing a confidence measure of said voice signal, outputting an estimation level based on said confidence measure, and comparing said estimation level with a predetermined estimation threshold (a confidence estimation is measured and compared to the

predetermined level of “unambiguous” or “ambiguous”, paragraph [0017] lines 1-6).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Greenberg with the use of confidence measurements as taught by Dominach. Doing so would have allowed to improve speech recognition (paragraph [0009]).

As to claims 5, 17 and 27, Greenberg does not specifically disclose using thresholds. Dominach teaches if said estimation level is higher than said predetermined estimation threshold, directly going to said step of identifying said voice command as a specific command or fuzzy command based on said voice signal (paragraph [0017] lines 4-8); if said estimation level is lower than said predetermined estimation threshold, displaying a plurality of commands based on said voice signal, a similarity of said plurality of commands to said voice commands is higher than a predetermined value, selecting one of said plurality of commands, and going to said step of identifying said voice command as one of said specific command and said fuzzy command based on said voice signal (if the confidence level is lower than a predetermined threshold than alternatives are calculated based on matches of the confidence level of the alternatives and are presented to the user to choose, paragraph [0025]).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Greenberg with the

use of confidence measurements as taught by Dominach. Doing so would have allowed to improve speech recognition (paragraph [0009]).

As to claims 6, 18, and 28, Greenberg does not disclose specifically choosing a command when one is not recognized. Dominach teaches selecting one of said plurality of commands including selecting one of said plurality of commands by a voice input (abstract lines 6-9).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Greenberg with the use of confidence measurements as taught by Dominach. Doing so would have allowed improving speech recognition (paragraph [0009]).

As to claims 7, 19, and 29, Greenberg does not disclose specifically selecting one of said plurality of commands including selecting one of said plurality of commands by a button input from said video device (abstract lines 6-9).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Greenberg with the use of confidence measurements as taught by Dominach. Doing so would have allowed improving speech recognition (paragraph [0009]).

As to claim 20, Greenberg does not disclose specifically using confidence measurements. Dominach teaches confidence measure unit disposed on said on-screen display control interface (paragraph [0027]).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Greenberg with the use of confidence measurements as taught by Dominach. Doing so would have allowed improving speech recognition (paragraph [0009]).

As to claim 26, Greenberg discloses a video device with a voice-assisted system (abstract lines 1-4), comprising a voice recognition engine receiving and recognizing a voice command (paragraph [0027] lines 1-3) and outputting a recognition result (paragraph [0050] lines 1-5), an on-screen display control interface, coupled to said voice recognition engine, receiving said voice signal; a display control unit coupled to said on-screen display control interface (paragraph [0036] lines 17-19); and a display unit coupled to said display control unit, said on-screen display control interface based on said voice signal identifying said voice command as on of a specific command and a fuzzy command (a plurality of adjustment commands, paragraph [0036] lines 19-24). If said voice command is said specific command, said display control unit performing an adjustment action corresponding to said voice command to adjust an image displayed on said display unit (image modification such as: image appearance, zoom in/out,

and much more, paragraph [0036] lines 17-19), if said voice command is said fuzzy command, said display control unit performing a plurality of adjustment actions corresponding to said voice command to adjust said image displayed on said display unit (paragraph [0040] lines 7-11).

Greenberg does not disclose specifically using confidence values.

Dominach teaches said voice recognition engine including a confidence measure unit performing a confidence measure of said voice signal, outputting an estimation level based on said confidence measure, comparing said estimation level with a predetermined estimation threshold to output a voice signal (a confidence estimation is measured and compared to the predetermined level of "unambiguous" or "ambiguous", paragraph [0017] lines 1-6).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Greenberg with the use of confidence measurements as taught by Dominach. Doing so would have allowed to improve speech recognition (paragraph [0009]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Josiah Hernandez whose telephone number is 571-270-1646. The examiner can normally be reached from 7:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

JH